



Longwood University Conference Center



Farmville, Virginia

Virginia Green is the Commonwealth of Virginia's campaign to promote environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. **Virginia Green** has established "core activities" specific to each sector of tourism, and these practices are considered the required minimum for participation in the program. However, **Virginia Green** encourages its participants to reduce their environmental impacts in all aspects of their operations; and this profile provides a full list of all their "green" activities. These are the activities that guests / customers can expect to find when they visit this facility.

Longwood University Conference Center

"Longwood University is a state-assisted, co-educational university encompassing 60-acres centrally located in Farmville, Virginia. As part of our premiere conference service amenities, we offer auditorium space to accommodate 100 to 1,000 attendees; a buffet-style dining facility and a full-service dining area which seats 400, perfect for private banquets or receptions; a variety of meeting spaces to accommodate small and large groups; mall areas for outdoor events; recreational facilities including gymnasium space, a pool and a Gold LEED certified Health and Fitness Center equipped with a climbing wall; and six updated residence halls to accommodate overnight guests."

Green Statement: "Longwood University's mission statement is *to transform capable men and women into citizen leaders, fully engaged in the world around them.* The leadership of Longwood University realizes and acknowledges the need to include sustainability in all aspects of university life and operations because it will substantially increase the accomplishment of actions that will help the University accomplish the sustainability elements of its strategic goals; leverage the existing body of knowledge about sustainable campus operations to significantly reduce the amount of energy, water and other resources consumed by the University, with a resulting significant cost savings; and help the University meet its moral requirement to embrace the definition of sustainability and the recommendations of the Brundtland Report."

CORE ACTIVITIES for Conference Centers

☑ This symbol indicates a required activity for Virginia Green Conference Centers. Participants self-certify that these activities are in place and they provide additional specifics on other activities. Visitors to **Longwood University Conference Center** can expect the following practices:

☑ **Recycling and Waste Reduction.** All conference centers must provide for recycling at their events. Aluminum can and plastic bottle recycling are a must. Recycling of steel cans, cardboard, office paper, and composting of waste foods are encouraged as well. This facility pledges that they:

- Recycle: aluminum cans, plastic, office paper, newspaper, cardboard, electronic equipment
- Recycle plastics 1-7
- Clearly marked recycling bins located in every building across campus and on every floor in the residence halls
- Track overall waste bills

- Have numeric goal to reduce overall materials that go to the landfill
kitchen (or meetings/events)
- Compost food waste and other compostables
- Have an effective food inventory control to minimize waste
- Purchase locally grown produce and other foods
- Purchase organic and/or "sustainably-grown" foods
dining room (or meetings/events)
- Use reusable dishware and glassware & minimize use of disposables
- Provide condiments, cream and sugar, etc. in bulk
- Use water pitchers and filtered water to minimize the use of single-use bottles
restrooms
- Use bulk soap dispensers in public restrooms
- Purchase recycled-content paper-towels and toilet paper
office/purchasing
- Encourage suppliers to minimize packaging and other waste materials
- Purchase from vendors and service providers with a commitment to the environment
- Use electronic correspondence and forms
building and grounds
- Using "green" Cleaners (www.greenseal.org) that are dispensed in bulk
- Purchase durable equipment and furniture
- Use reused building materials or those from sustainable sources
- Use latex paints
- Re-use paint thinners
- Properly recycle and/or disposal of thinners and solvents (required by EPA-RCRA)
- Perform preventative maintenance on all appliances, HVAC systems, plumbing, and vehicles
- Use less toxic materials
- Use "integrated pest management" (IPM)
- Minimize use of pesticides and herbicides in landscaping
- Use a nutrient management plan that minimizes the use of fertilizers in landscaping
- Compost pre- and post-consumer food waste, wood ash from the Heating Plant and landscaping debris
- Purchase approximately 15% locally grown produce and 5% organic
- Dining hall tracks daily and weekly production and inventory of food and utilizes a first-in/first-out system and labeling system to minimize waste
- Napkins in the dining hall are unbleached and made from recycled content and are placed on the tables rather than at the end of the serving line reducing waste

☒ **Styrofoam elimination and reduction of disposables.** Virginia Green Conference centers are encouraged to eliminate or minimize the use of Styrofoam-based products and to use alternative disposables that are made of natural products and/or are bio-degradable. This facility pledges that they:

- Use disposable containers that are:
 - Made from bio-based materials
 - Recyclable

☒ **Water Conservation.** The facility must have a plan for conserving water that should consider plumbing modifications and landscaping. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall water usage and wastewater
- Perform preventative maintenance to stop drips and leaks
- Have an effective landscape management plan which utilize drought tolerant species
- 179,000 gallon rainwater harvesting system utilized at the Lancer Park athletic field
- Printing Services utilizes digital processing to reduce the use of chemicals and to conserve water, which requires at most, 5 gallons of water per week
- Discontinued the use of trays in the dining hall in Fall 2008 to further the institution's water conservation efforts
- Rain gardens adjacent to the residential student parking areas capture and treat storm water runoff
- Xeriscape gardens on Brock Commons do not require irrigation

- Storm water management wetland, currently under construction, is designed to capture storm water runoff and reduce the amount of pollution infiltrating into the groundwater

☒ **Energy Conservation.** The facility must have a plan in place that encourages replacement of lighting and equipment to energy-efficient alternatives. This facility pledges that they:

- Track overall energy bills
- Have had an energy audit to identify efficiency opportunities
- Have a numeric goal of how much they want to reduce their energy usage over time
- Evaluate existing ovens and other kitchen equipment for energy efficiency
- Use:
 - compact fluorescent light bulbs in all rooms and in canned lighting
 - high efficiency fluorescent ballasts and lamps (T5s and T8s)
- Have high efficiency heating & air conditioning (HVAC) systems
- Perform preventative maintenance on HVAC system
- Have individual thermostats for each room/area
- Use natural lighting
- Purchase EnergyStar-rated computers, copiers, and appliances
- Use LEED criteria when developing new buildings
- Achieved LEED certification as a GOLD building
- Are working to achieve LEED-EB (existing building) certification through operational changes and renovations
- Developing an Energy Management System to track energy usage and, upon completion in August 2009, all non-academic buildings will be equipped with individual electrical meters
- Dorrill Dining Hall's heating and cooling is provided primarily by a geothermal heat pump system
- Systematically replacing windows campus-wide; approximately 50% of building windows have been replaced with thermal-rated windows
- Health and Fitness Center is Gold LEED certified; it is the only LEED certified building on campus to date
- Member of the USGBC and follow the guidance of the LEED Building Rating System throughout the design phase of new construction and renovation projects
- Heating Plant utilizes biofuel, specifically sawdust, supplying 90% of the heat and hot water to all campus buildings
- Honored by the National Wildlife Federation as a winner in the annual competition *Chill Out: Campus Solutions to Global Warming*.

☒ **Green Events Package.** Virginia Green conference centers must offer a "green" or "environmentally-friendly" package for conferences, meetings and other events. Even if the facility only offers occasional, small events, at least recycling will be provided. This facility pledges that they:

- Promote the availability of "green meetings/conferences" in marketing packages
- Electronic confirmation, proposals, contracting and invoicing
- Prepackaged linens which encourages reuse
- Pillows are purchased for each conference attendee; if the pillow is left behind, the pillows are donated to a local women's shelter
- Reuse ID badges from previous year

For more information on **Longwood University Conference Center**, see www.longwood.edu/scheduling/conferences.htm or contact **Darlene Bratcher** at bratcherkd@longwood.edu or 434-395-2022.

For more information on the **Virginia Green** program, see www.deq.virginia.gov/p2/viriniagreen/homepage.html or go to www.viriniagreentravel.org.



Virginia Green is the Commonwealth's campaign to encourage environmentally-friendly practices in all aspects of Virginia's tourism industry. *Virginia Green* is supported through a partnership between the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the Virginia Hospitality & Travel Association, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

